OFFICE FOR WOMEN





Chris Owens
Director

It is a simple equation: Sequestration + March 1st Deadline = Drastic Long-Term Program Cuts.

The projected impact on Kentucky has been provided by:

- The White House
- Coalition on Human Needs
- Center for American Progress
 (beginning on p. 5 are tables with estimated cuts for each state & to specific program/services areas by state.

 Example: Women's Health & Child

Care, p. 15)

National Partnership for Women & Families: Violence **Against Women** Act—VAWA grantees have been notified Sequestration would cut \$20 million and "For grant programs, the sequestration budget reductions will affect FY 2013 funding levels for **OVW's programs** across the board.

Last Call: Please Join Us on International Women's Day

The Americana Community Center in partnership with the Office for Women is pleased to present the International Women's Day Luncheon at Americana Community Center on March 8, 2013. International Women's Day is a world wide movement to show appreciation and respect for all women and to raise awareness of sexual violence against women.

This year, we will be presenting awards to 5 outstanding immigrant and refugee women in our community who have been of great support and/or advocates for their communities. The women who will be receiving awards will exemplify community leadership in our refugee and international community.

Award luncheon details: Friday, March 8, 11:30 AM-1:00PM Americana Community Center, 4801 Southside Dr. Louisville, 40214 \$10 donation requested - no one will be turned

away RSVP: dana@americanacc.org

About IWD . . .

"We do have female astronauts and prime ministers, school girls are welcomed into university, women can work and have a family, women have real choices. And so the



tone and nature of <u>IWD</u> has, for the past few years, moved from being a reminder about the negatives to a celebration of the positives."

International Women's Day was first observed in 1911 in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland. More than one million women and men attended rallies on that first commemoration. In 1975, during International Women's Year, the United Nations began

Yarmuth Speaks on VAWA and Supervised Visitation

Contributed by: Kathryn Tillett, Community Outreach

I recently heard Congressman John Yarmuth at the Center for Women and Families (CWF) advocating for reauthorization of VAWA (the Violence Against Women Act), which was allowed to expire over 500 days ago. Yarmuth, CWF's, Marta Miranda, Marissa Castellanos from Catholic Charities' human trafficking program, and Shannon, a CWF client all spoke movingly of the critical role VAWA funding plays in services supporting survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

Yarmuth and Miranda pointed out that after being enacted in 1994, VAWA led to a more than a 50% reduction in domestic violence rates and to public economic savings that exceed funding costs nearly 10 to 1 (for details, see this 2012 Bureau of Justice Statistics report and this National Network to End Domestic Violence fact sheet).

It was great to hear the Congressman identify supervised visitation as a vital component of keeping survivors and their families safe, since this preventative service is rarely foremost on people's minds until there is a <u>crisis</u>. In our area, the Louisville Metro Visitation and Exchange Center (<u>LMVEC</u>) relies primarily on VAWA funding through the <u>Safe Havens grant program</u>, which is supplemented by support from Louisville Metro Government and in-kind contributions from our <u>collaborative</u> partners.

LMVEC is fortunate to have been awarded multiple continuations of its Safe Havens grant since first receiving the funds in 2003. Having VAWA in jeopardy reminds us that we can't expect the Safe Havens grant money to always be around. As a community, we need to devise sustainable funding that will allow LMVEC to continue protecting families.



The Louisville Metro Office for Women (OFW) uses policy and advocacy to improve the status of women in the Louisville Metro area. OFW is a Policy, Advocacy & Community Outreach office within the Louisville Metro Department of Community Services and Revitalization. OFW Committee involvement examines women's needs, system responses and assists in development of recommendations. The Office serves as an information and resource hub, maximizing resources through community education & partnerships, communication, collaboration, interns/volunteers and technology.





News For & About Women

The **Sumannat Project** has raised \$6,000 of their \$10,000 goal. Ron Lehocky pledged to match up to \$10,000. Ron is a Louisville pediatrician and artist whose 20,000 handmade

polymer clay hearts raise money "one heart at a time" for Kids Centre Pediatric Therapies.

The Samunnat Project in Nepal assists victims of abuse and wants to provide a safe place to live, advocacy and a mans for the women to become self-sufficient. This project is a shining example of what can happen when we have heart.

The women in the Project are victims of abuse and some are refugees. A small international network of artists are assisting the the Project which offers a model for other communities.

OFW Louisville on <u>Facebook</u>

<u>Women's</u> **Organizations**

OFW Reports & Publications

Community Calendar & News

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FEMINIST SOCIAL CHANGE February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness **ARTISTS** ACROSS THE STATE: Kentucky Foundation for Women. Grant Opportunities, Deadline: March 1

Kentucky Women Remembered Ceremony

Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. in the Capitol Rotunda, Frankfort, Kentucky.

This year's honorees are: Lois Howard Gray (posthumously) Honorable Thelma Stovall (posthumously) Mary Eugenia Wharton (posthumously)

From Women 4 Women:

Have You Identified Your Personal Brand?

When:

Thursday, April 11, 2013 Doors open at 5 p.m.; Program 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Opening night talk back with playwright Robin Rice Lichtiq

Looking for Lilith Theatre Company presents World Premiere Play as part of Women's

Beyond the Books: The power to Make a Difference is a workshop for teachers and counselors seeking to support their immigrant students

THURSDAY MARCH 14, 5-8:30 PM

LIMITED NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE Mari Mujica, PhD, and Alexis Meza, DREAMer, Journalist, and activist will facilitate this workshop in Friday. E-Mail To Register

> Louisville Girls Leadership Presents Girls IdeaFestival

Louisville Girls Leadership will present Girls IdeaFestival on

Month: For "Respect Week" by LovelsRespect.org Is this Abuse?

Page 2 of 2

Relationship Ready Seminar for Single Women

March 23, 2013 from 10am - 12noon Laws Lodge, located on the campus of Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road. Registration: \$85(includes 15-min relationship consultation) TO REGISTER:

Email Emerging Woman@insightbb.com

PRESENTER: Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, C.M. Smith

Where: Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana 2115 Lexington Road Louisville, KY

Registration:

\$20 - Join 4 a Voice Members \$30 - Non-Members Register now at w4w.org.

History Month: Strong-willed photographer Alice Austen takes on the Victorian World in Alice in Black and White.

Performances held at: The MeX Theater at The Kentucky Center, 501 West Main St. Louisville, Ky

conjunction with the exhibit of the photoethnographies.

Sueños de Mujer, Barreras de Inmigrante (Women's Dreams, Immigrant Barriers) which opens at Wayside Expressions Gallery, (Wayside Christian Mission Hotel Louisville, 120 West Broadway) this

Sunday April 21, 2013 from 1:30 to 6:00 pm at the Spalding University Center Building located at 824 South 4th Street Louisville, KY. The event is free if you register online at www.bit.ly/gifestival otherwise the cost is \$5.00 at the door.

Disclaimer:

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